Two

LETTERS

The one from

The Right HONOURABLE,

Sir Thomas Fairfax.

The other from Colonell

Ralph Weldon,

Being an exact Relation of the raising of the Siege, and releeving of the Town of

TAUNTON.

Which was Read in both Houses of Parliament on Wednesday being the 14. of May 1645.

And commanded to be forthwith printed.

London printed for *John Wright* at the Kings Head in the old Bayley. 1645.

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For the

HONOURABLE

William Lenthall

Eſquire, Speaker of the Honourable

House of Commons.

Maſter Speaker;

I Have ſent you here inclosed Colonell *Weldens* Letter, ſhewing Gods goodneſſe in the ſeaſonable relief of *Taunton*; and I heare that the Enemy hath ſent part of their Force to *Bridgewater*, and part to *Exceter*; we have had a continuall March this fourteene dayes, the extremity of heat and length of

way hath much wearied the Souldiers and worne out their Shoes, which I desire may be supplied with all speed. This (with some little rest) will make these men willing and very ready to obey any Command they shall have to doe Service. I shall for the present referre you to this inclosed, and so remaine,

Your very affectionate friend,
and humble servant,

White Church 13. *May at* 12. *a clock at night.*

Tho. Fairfax.

To

To the Right

HONOURABLE

Sir Thomas Fairfax,

Commander in chiefe of the Army raiſed for the defence of King and Parliament, preſent.

Right Honourable,

ACcording to your command I ſhall give you an accompt of the good Succeſſe wherwith God hath bleſſed this Party hitherto. We have marched very hard, loſt no time, and this Sunday, the eleventh, came before Taunton, *wherevten of ours fell on a hun-*

hundred of theirs, and killed and took some of them; they could not believe but wee were my Lord Gorings *Forces, wee were within foure miles of the Towne before they would believe we were come: and then about foure of the Clocke in the afternoone they confusedly ran every way; Gods goodnesse appeared very much to this poore Towne: Wee came in the very point of time, their Ammunition was all spent, very much of the Town burnt, the Towne extremely well defended, many times entred by storme, and beaten out againe, They have two hundred hurt men in the Towne; It must now be our parts to consider how to subsist. The barbarous Enemy hath almost unpeopled the Countrey. Since I*

came

came heare, in ſix Weekes time, a wonderfull Change, ſcarce a man to bee ſeene in a Village. I ſhall in all humility acquaint you from that I heare: My Regiment is deſigned for the Weſt, I humbly intreate, if it be poſsible, I may waite on your Honour in your Army, which if your honour ſhall pleaſe to grant, it will much oblige

Your moſt humble
Servant,

Patmiſter. *May* the 11.

Ralph Weldon.

FINIS.

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